

REMARKS

This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continuing Examination. Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment and the remarks that follow is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-18, and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by IBM Technical Disclosure to Tsui et al. Claims 5, 12, and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsui et al. in view of Foy et al., U.S. Pat. No. 4,916,457. By this amendment, claims 1, 8, 13, 18, and 20 have been amended. Claims 4 and 11 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Tsui et al. discloses an arrangement for mounting cards (9) using sockets (8) located on both sides of a board (1) in a staggered mounting arrangement. The staggered sockets (8) each have two types of contact pins, i.e., associated contact pins (5, 7) and shared contact pins (6). In this mounting arrangement, none of the pins used by a socket on one side of board (1) are interposed with pins used by a socket on the other side of board (1). Claim 1 has been amended to recite "at least one connector of one of said first set of connectors and said second set of connectors being interposed between connectors of the other of said

first set of connectors and said second set of connectors." This feature is not taught by nor obvious from Tsui et al. or Foy et al. whether taken singularly or in combination. Therefore, claim 1 patentably defines over these references and is allowable. Claims 2, 3, and 5-7 are allowable for at least the same reasons claim 1 is allowable and for the specific recitations therein.

Claim 8 has been amended to recite that each of a first set of a plurality of holes at the first surface of the circuit board are different than each of a second set of a plurality of holes at the second surface of the circuit board. Clearly, the holes that receive pin (6) of Tsui et al., are shared by staggered sockets on both sides of the board. Also, claim 8 has been amended to recite "at least one connector of one of said first set of connectors and said second set of connectors being interposed between connectors of the other of said first set connectors and said second set of connectors." For similar reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1, neither Tsui et al., nor Foy et al., teach or make obvious this feature. Therefore, for this further reason, claim 8 patentably defines over these references and is allowable. Claims 9, 10, and 12 are allowable for at least the same reasons claim 8 is allowable and for the specific recitations therein.

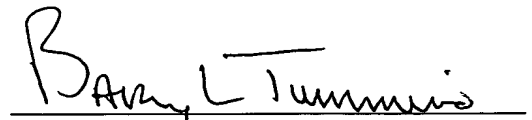
Claim 13 has been amended to recite "first connecting means for electrically connecting the first component to the first surface of said circuit board means, said first connecting means providing the only electrical connection between said first component and said circuit board; and second connecting means for electrically connecting the second component to the second surface of said circuit board means, said second connecting means providing the only electrical connection between said second component and said circuit board, and said second connecting means being separate and apart from said first connecting means." Tsui et al. teaches having a staggered mounting arrangement using a shared pin (6) that provides electrical connection for staggered sockets on opposite side of the board (1). Therefore, claim 13 patentably defines over the Tsui et al., and is allowable. Dependent claims 14-19 are allowable for at least the same reason claim 13 is allowable and for the specific limitations contained therein. Specifically, claim 18 has been amended to recite that one of the first set of connectors and the second set of connectors are interposed between the other of said first set of connectors and said second set of connectors. This feature is not taught by the Tsui et al. nor Foy et al. whether taken singularly or in combination.

Claim 20 has been amended to recite "mounting a first component to a first surface of a circuit board for electrically engaging the circuit board; and mounting a second component to a second surface of the circuit board for electrically engaging the circuit board, said mounting of the first component including the step of inserting a plurality of first mechanical one-way connectors into associated first mounting holes in a first side of the circuit board, said mounting of the second component including the step of inserting a plurality of second mechanical one-way connectors into associated second mounting holes in a second side of the circuit board such that said first mechanical one way connectors extend from the first component toward the second component and said second mechanical one way connectors extend from the second component toward the first component, none of said first mechanical one way connectors and said second mechanical one way connectors sharing the same mounting holes." In Tsui et al., the pins (6) of staggered sockets (8) on two sides of board (1) share the same hole in the board. Therefore, claim 20 patentably defines over Tsui et al., whether taken singularly or in combination with Foy et al., and is therefore allowable.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barry L. Tummino", is written over a horizontal line.

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